

## LOCAL NEWS.

The editor's Christmas is generally what the delinquent subscribers make it.

DESPITE the fact that Christmas is here the roses are still in bloom in grand old Southern Texas.

EVEN at this early day the ubiquitous candidate is commencing to feel the public pulse and to wonder "where he is at."

It is rumored in railway circles that Mr. J. W. Dickerson of Temple will retire from the position of division superintendent of the Santa Fe on Jan. 1st.

DURING the holidays is a good time to remember the poor and needy. Bear this in mind, and also the scriptural declaration that "He who giveth to the poor lendeth to the Lord," or words to this effect.

Mr. H. H. GILLY received a shipment of 125 beeves from Wallis Wednesday. The cattle were purchased from J. S. Dabney and will be wintered at this place.

CHRISTMAS is about here and the small boy who has saved up a few nickles with which to purchase fire-crackers and fireworks chuckles with fiendish glee as he sings, "There's going to be a hot time in this good, this good old town."

AMONG the guests from a distance in attendance on the Burns-Hughes nuptials yesterday were Miss Bessie Hughes, of Houston; Miss Mamie Houston, of Sealy; Misses Mamie and Daisy Burns, Mr. Max Roensch, Mr. Harry Knox and Miss Mamie Roensch, of Giddings.

The funeral of Mr. John S. Norton, who died at Austin Tuesday night, occurred at Prairie Lea Cemetery Wednesday afternoon, the remains arriving on the 4:50 o'clock Central train, accompanied by his bereaved family and a number of sympathizing friends. Rev. George Lloyd conducted the last sad service.

This weather is destined to load the trucks of all the south-bound freights with the contingent of the tramp army that habitually seeks the shelter of colder winter quarters. The heads of municipal governments in all the southern cities will have their hands full dealing with these exodusters. There should be food and shelter and a rock-pile at their service everywhere.

SOMETIME ago Manager J. H. Maddox, of the Brenham Manufacturing company, was "caned" by the employees of that institution. He has been "playing for even" ever since and Christmas eve his opportunity came. Friday every workman in the establishment from foreman to apprentice dined with the manager. The banquet board was spread in the finishing room which was elaborately decorated for the occasion. Everyone who sat down to the table on this felicitous occasion is ready to swear by Manager Maddox that the feast was one unexcelled in the annals of Christmas.

An old Texan is credited with the statement that "a man who refuses to drink eggnogg on Christmas day is a blank diar."

The standard the in Brenham green.

plate glass York Store explosion carelessly The same with a crash last Christ-

## A SEARCH FOR SANTA CLAUS.

A bitter night—a squalid street—A basement bleak and bare. A hungry child with bleeding feet Alone sat waiting there. All day amid the surging throng She'd wandered far and near—All day had sung a feeble song That none had paused to hear.

But as she sang she caught the name Of Santa Claus, and how On Christmas night he often came To hungry children now. And so she waited in the dark For Santa Claus to come Till in her breast the feeble spark Of hope grew faint and numb.

She thought because she had no light He failed to bring her share, And crept at last into the night To lead the good saint there. And Christmas morning came, and lo! Her dead face smiled, because Amid a whirling drift of snow Her little weary soul I know Had found its Santa Claus.

## ONE WAY TO GET BUSINESS.

Agent Barnett Holds up a Train for the Benefit of Local Merchants.

When the "Alligator Limited" reached Brenham at 2:30 Wednesday afternoon, four hours behind time, the passenger coaches were well loaded with holiday shoppers from Gay Hill, Somerville, Clay and other points. The leaving time of the train is three o'clock and Agent Barnett saw at once that if those holiday shoppers only staid in Brenham half an hour Brenham merchants would be the losers on many a Christmas purchase. For the benefit of the merchants as well as the accommodation of the visitors he succeeded in having the train held at this place until 4:40 o'clock by securing permission from headquarters. This looks like a small favor at a casual glance, but it netted the merchants of Brenham several hundred dollars in holiday trade which would have been gone from themselves and their heirs forever had that train gone out on time.

## Ten Thousand Dollars in Improvements.

The Board of directors of the Brenham Compress, Oil and Manufacturing Company held a special meeting Wednesday afternoon to receive the report of the electrical expert under whose direction the new dynamo was thoroughly tested a few days ago. The report was in every respect satisfactory. The new dynamo and engine represent an outlay of over \$7,000 and together with other improvements will make over \$10,000 that the company has expended this fall in improved facilities and apparatus. The plant is now prepared to furnish more light than Brenham can possibly use, and Electrician Eddy says he has been authorized to string additional wires wherever patronage demands.

## Charged With Horse Stealing.

Some five weeks ago, on Nov. 21st, a horse belonging to Humphrey Hill, a colored farmer of Graball, mysteriously disappeared from Fricke's wagon yard. Nothing was heard of the missing animal until Wednesday last at which time it turned up in the possession of Levi Bouldin. The horse was returned to its owner and Bouldin given over to the custody of the justice court where a charge of horse theft was preferred against him. He resides at Wesley, is fifteen years old, and denies his guilt in toto.

## Some Christmas Turkeys.

Mr. H. M. Lochridge, assistant ticket and general baggage agent at the Union depot, has been importuning his department for some time to supply the baggage room at this place with a new truck. Finally he went so far as to offer the chief of the department some Christmas turkeys in exchange for the much wanted truck. Thursday the truck came and the same day the turkeys were sent, preceded by the following telegram: "Truck in, turkeys out."

It is well to remember the poor with our prayers, but it is better to supplement our prayers with our pocket book.

## THE CHRISTMAS SPIRIT.

Present appearances indicate that the joyousness and good cheer of the happy Christmas-tide will be handicapped in outward expressions by the environments of most unfavorable and disagreeable weather. But while the frowning elements can dampen the pomp and circumstance of the festival, no meteorological drawbacks can destroy the Christmas spirit that is abroad in the land. The elements that gladden hearts, brighten lives and better and bless mankind are not lacking in any particular. The execrable weather should not be allowed to depress our feelings nor destroy the smallest portion of the joy and happiness accruing from the holidays. Drown dull care and lose sight of the bad weather which can't be helped. Reduce selfishness to a minimum and contribute your mite to the happiness of humanity by joining in mutual exchanges of love and good will. While making gifts to those near and dear to you do not forget the unfortunate and the improvident. Remember even the beggar at your gate. Drop a few sunbeams of kindly remembrance in their lives; lift up for a day the intolerable weight of care and weariness that burden the poor; remember that "in the scope of love bounded by the founder of Christianity, all men are brothers, all women are sisters, all children are the wards of love." Christmas is the festival of children. Whoso would enjoy it truly must be in heart even as a little child. Its ecstasies are in self-forgetfulness, in the betterment of others. Its highest celebration is in helping our neighbors to be happy and thus sharing our happiness with them. There is no happiness comparable to love, and the happiness grows greater as the love embraces more and more our fellow-beings. That is the best Christmas time in which one feels most acutely the actuality of kinship with all the world. It is the child that is the real democrat, for, as Emerson has it, he makes children of all the adults that gather around him, levels them to his own simplicity. The man who has the child-heart is the man whose interest in himself is most merged into interest for his fellow-creatures. Though one may have felt sin and shame and sorrow he may assuage them all in the promotion of the happiness of others. Love is the only antidote, and giving it out it returns upon us as manifold as the objects upon which it is bestowed. That man who awakens the Christmas spirit in the hearts about him will find it subtly stealing from them to his own, and will, almost unknowing, find himself dispossessed by sweet, and warmth usurping cold therein. This world is very fair and charity makes it all the fairer when its glow reminds us of "the long, long night that death shall last." Christmas feeling makes the most of the now. It atones for the after—the deluge or the dark. It is real life to live, if but for a week, a day, a moment, in full sympathy of helping with our fellows. If we can make others forget the past we may forget our own. If we can but give to others a little of the antidote of kindness for the poison of the present we shall find our own to-day less hopeless. And the future is formed of the spirit that animates to-day. The real feeling of Christmas must blossom into acts.

## One Hundred Dollars Reward.

Stolen, Sunday night, from G. W. McNeese, Hubbard, Texas, one sorrel horse, 14 1-2 hands high, ball face, white hind feet, shod all around, saddle and harness worked, 7 or 8 years old, in good fix. The above reward will be paid for thief by

G. W. McNEESE, Hubbard, Texas.

Harrison's for fireworks. Set the price and take 'em.

## "TITE" JOHNSON'S RECORD.

A Scheme that is Growing Useful and Interesting.

More than a year ago M. L. Robbins, general passenger agent of the Houston and Texas Central, inaugurated a plan of collecting statements from all of the old employees of the company of their railroad record, and, so far, over 200 have responded. Among them are some old-timers, who began working for the road back in the '40's. In cases of dispute touching a veteran's service Mr. Robbins serves as arbitrator, and his compilation is regarded by the employees as being history.

When one of these men is called from earthly labors a notation is made upon the margin of the page, stating that fact. Captain McMillan, who was so long chief clerk to Vice President Quinlan, was the first to succumb. Next was Engineer Hicks, who pulled the pay train ever since Morgan took charge of the road, and the third was Captain "Tite" Johnson, whose death was mentioned in the Post. The record was taken from a shelf yesterday and these words inscribed on the page: "Died: Hempstead, Texas, 6 p. m. Monday, December 20, 1897."

The record shows that Captain "Tite" had been in the Central's employ for nearly thirty years. In November, 1867, he went to work as clerk in the freight office of the company at Navasota, where he served one year. For the next twenty-six years he was agent at Navasota, Hutchin, McKinney, Sherman and Hempstead. He was only out of their employ two years, during which time he traveled for a Galveston mercantile house. —Houston Post.

## With Accustomed Regularity.

In contradistinction to a time honored custom, the BANNER will appear this Christmas with its accustomed regularity, and its many readers may expect to receive their favorite paper Sunday morning just the same as if Christmas had not occurred. If in perusing the columns of the "old reliable" tomorrow morning its patrons find anything that gives them pleasure and contributes to an increase of their Christmas happiness the management and employees will feel amply remunerated for having labored while the majority of mankind were frolicking. We shall be glad to furnish a complete report of all formal and informal happenings incident to the celebration of today and will esteem it an especial favor to be greatly appreciated if those giving entertainments, parties, etc., will telephone us accounts of such occurrences, and other items that may be of interest to Christmas readers.

## Christmas Greeting.

A merry Christmas to our friends, our subscribers, our city and our country, individually and collectively, and may you all improve the festive occasion by looking only on the bright side of life, forget the things that are and everybody join in celebrating the universal holiday. May every man who contemplates an early swearing off time also be willing to swear that times were never hard, or if they have been, will not be so again. May one and all not only be able to see a silver lining to the clouds of adversity, but also we sincerely trust a "little blue sky" may be discernable in the clouds above us. May every Christmas stocking be taxed to its utmost capacity, every home be filled with plenty, and every heart with joy.

## An Uncertain Disease.

There is no disease more uncertain in its nature than dyspepsia. Physicians say that the symptoms of no two cases agree. It is therefore most difficult to make a correct diagnosis. No matter under what disguise dyspepsia attacks you, Brown's Iron Bitters will cure it. Incurable in all diseases of the stomach, blood and nerves. For sale by R. E. Luhn, Druggist.

Ralston's Breakfast Food at Wehneyer Bros.

## Officers Elected.

At a meeting of Brenham Council No. 365, American Legion of Honor, the following officers were elected:

Geo. H. Wilson, commander. Mrs. E. A. Baber, V. C. A. C. H. Schweiss, secretary. Henry Cohn, Treasurer. A. Seelhorst, warden. J. R. Glenn, guide.

At a meeting of Mizpah Lodge No. 123, Knights and Ladies of Honor, the following officers were elected:

W. A. Lockett, protector. J. R. Williamson V. protector. C. H. Carlisle, Treasurer. Henry Cohn, secretary.

At a meeting of Akiber Eger Lodge, No. 249, Independent Order B'nai-Brith, the following officers were elected:

A. Simon, president. Isaac Lewis, vice president. H. Cohn, secretary. B. Lewis, treasurer. J. Schwartz, monitor. Ed. Newbauer, guide.

## A Wonderful Discovery.

The last quarter of a century records many wonderful discoveries in medicine, but none that have accomplished more for humanity than that sterling old remedy, Brown's Iron Bitters. It seems to contain the very elements of good health, and neither man, woman or child can take it without deriving the greatest benefit. For sale by R. E. Luhn, Sole Agent.

## CHRISTMAS DISPLAY.

Korff & Clemons' Market the Prettiest Place in town.

The most execrable weather that has prevailed without abatement for more than a week has greatly militated against the elaborate displays and attractive show windows usually in evidence at Christmas. Very few of the stores and shops have made any attempt at display. Conspicuous among the few that have is the enterprising firm of Korff & Clemons. Their market is by all odds the most attractive place from a standpoint of Christmas appearances to be found in the city. In fact their display would be a credit to any city anywhere. Mr. Hugh C. Clemons, junior member of the firm, served an apprenticeship in the celebrated French market at New Orleans and must certainly have been an apt pupil. His fine Italian hand is plainly discernable in the display arrangements. Dressed game of every description, ducks, geese, turkeys and etc., are hanging around in artistic profusion. Grinning 'possums, corpulent ducks and graceful turkeys hang at ease from the twigs and bows of evergreens, as natural as tho' in their native woods, minus skins and feathers. The only drawback to the firm's enterprise is the possibility that they have overdone the market.

I write this to let you know what I would not do: I would not do without Chamberlain's Pain Balm in my own house, at it cost \$5.00 per bottle. It does all you recommend it to do and more.—J. R. Wallace, Wallaceville, Ga. Chamberlain's Pain Balm is the best household liniment in the world, and invaluable for rheumatism, lame back, sprains and bruises. Be ready for emergencies by buying a bottle at R. E. Luhn's drug store.

## May Go Further and Fare Worse.

Two "yellow niggers" made a grand stand play around at the Opera bar on Christmas day and tried to hold up the bartender for a drink from the "white" side of the counter. They even went so far as to introduce a double barrel shot gun by way of intimidation. The counter clerk stood his ground and will prosecute the Colorado maduro gentlemen for aggravated assault and other offences. In fact the impertinent and officious negroes will do well to escape with the payment of a fine and may thank their stars, if they do, that their skins are whole.

## ESTRAY NOTICE.

Taken up by H. J. Neinst, Long Point, Texas, one brown stag, 12 or 15 years old, brand blotched, marked crop off left ear, and overbit in right ear, appraised at \$10. Estrayed before W. R. Ewing, justice of the peace, precinct No. 3, Washington county.

O. A. SEWARD, County Clerk.

## CHRISTMAS LONG AGO.

All Presents Had to Go Into the Christmas Stocking.

Robert J. Burdette in the Ladies' Home Journal tells in his humorous ways how he remembers the Christmas of long years ago.

"Most of the Christmas presents in those days were designed by the manufacturer for the hanging stocking. Anything too big to go into a stocking had to go over to somebody's birthday. In any family where there was more than one child the old reliable "Noah's Ark" was always looked for. We hailed with exclamations of astonished recognition Noah and Mrs. Noah, Messrs. and Mme. Shem, Ham and Japhet. There was no way of telling the men and women apart. They were exactly alike, but the elephant and giraffe you could distinguish at a glance, on account of the spots on the giraffe. So also the dog and the cow, because the cow was always white and blue, while the dog was invariably blue. Within 24 hours after the landing on Ararat the baby would have all the paint sucked off Shem, Ham and the hired man, and the doctor would be sent for.

"The red monkey climbing a red stick was another regular Christmas visitor. He was highly esteemed as a light luncheon by the baby. It never seemed to affect the infant unpleasantly—to himself, that is—although the cloudy symphony of red and blue about his innocent mouth was apt to make the beholder shiver. But it made the monkey look sick. Then there was a man on the box, with a major-general's uniform, beating a drum. You turned a crank, the general lifted his stick high in the air, and something in the box made a noise as much like a drum as a pen of thunder is like a piccolo. These things as toys were of no value, but as practical and useful object lessons they were beyond all price, on the minus side."

A Tennessee lady, Mrs. J. W. Towle, of Philadelphia, Tenn., has been using Chamberlain's Cough Remedy for her baby, who is subject to croup, and says of it: "Since I had your Cough Remedy, my baby has been threatened with croup over so many times, but I would give him a dose of the Remedy and it prevented his having it every time." Hundreds of mothers say the same. Sold by R. E. Luhn.

The school authorities at Orange, N. J., have decided that the female teachers must remove their short bicycle skirts while in the schoolrooms. These gentlemen should go further and have them put on their long skirts.

## Hall's Great Discovery.

One small bottle of Hall's Great Discovery cures all Kidney and Bladder Troubles, removes gravel, cures Diabetes, Sexual Emissions, Weak and Lame Backs, and all irregularities of the Kidneys and Bladder in both men and women. Regulates Bladder Troubles in children. If not sold by your druggist, will be sent by mail on receipt of \$1. One small bottle is two months' treatment and will cure any case above mentioned. E. W. HALL, Sole Manufacturer. Sold by R. E. Luhn, Brenham, Texas.

## BRENNHAM, TEXAS, Sept. 7, '96.

After suffering several years with kidney trouble and pain in the back, and trying other remedies, Hall's Great Discovery was the first and only medicine that gave me relief. Yours &c, W. WILKINS.

THE Beeville Picayune says: Mr. Willough Wilkins, assistant cashier of the Commercial National bank, left yesterday morning for Brenham, where he will spend the holidays with friends and relatives.

The young Duke of Marlborough has vastly improved since his marriage, and those who knew him in his salad days at Cambridge aver that the change for the better is really marvelous.